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October 24, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/062,113  
Filed: April 17, 1998  
Title: Novel Proteins and Methods for Producing the Proteins  
Applicants: Masaki GOTO *et al.*  
Atty. Docket: 16991.012

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO):

1. an Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by the Examiner; and
2. a return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing matter number 16991.012. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristan Lansbery".

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. No. 53,183)

Enclosures

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Masaki GOTO *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/062,113

Filed: April 17, 1998

For: Novel Proteins and Methods for  
Producing the Proteins



Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: David S. Romeo

Confirmation No.: 2563

Atty. Docket: 16991.012

**Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by the Examiner**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

According to a communication mailed February 16, 2006, the above-referenced application was suspended for six months to await the availability of a potential reference. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner in charge of this case provide a status update to the undersigned as soon as possible by calling 202-942-5186.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristan Lansbery".

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. No. 53,183)

Date: October 24, 2006

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